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SOURCE

1. Experiments with New Diesel Engine

The Ceskomoravská Kolben-Danek and the Skoda Works in Pilson are working on new types of a 1,000 HP Diesel engine. The Skoda model is considered to be the better one.

2. Armament Production at the Skoda Works

No new tanks are being produced at present; only old German tanks are being repaired. Self-propelled guns of the German type Nashorn are currently being manufactured. The gun department is now engaged in the production of a "mortar 38", fifty units of which have been ordered by the USSR.

3. Reconstruction of German Jet Engines

The German engine "Jumo 004" is being reconstructed at the Skoda Works. Through a slight change in the design of the original turbine, the efficiency of the new engine is expected to be increased by 8 percent.

4. Soviet Order for Aircraft Testing Machinery

The Ceskomoravská Kolben-Danek is now working on three "air blowers" for aircraft testing air tubes destined for the USSR. The output per unit of the machinery is to be 170,000 cubic meters of air per hour. The aircraft testing tubes are to operate at low temperatures, down to -40 degrees centigrade, and at super-critical wind velocities. In the opinion of Skoda engineers, similar machinery meeting the above specifications has not been constructed anywhere yet.

5. Supply of Materials at the Skoda Works

There is a very serious shortage of colored metals. Circulars of the Directorate distributed to the individual production departments recommend the use of steel as substitute for colored metals. The maximum power supply of all production plants is 31,000 KW.

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CLASSIFICATION

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Next Review Date: 5/13

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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6. Pipes for the Soviet Union

The Vítkovice Iron Works and the Mannesmann Plant in Chomutov are now working on a priority order of drill pipes for naphtha destined for the Soviet Union.

7. Skoda Works - New Electrical Engineering Establishments

The Skoda Works is setting up three new electrical engineering plants. One is already in the process of construction at Pilsen-Doudlevka, covering a tract of 500 by 280 meters. The work at Pilsen-Doudlevka has been stopped recently because of the lack of U- and T-iron beams. The second plant is to be located between the gas tank of Skoda-Pilsen and the Goldscheider factory (pots and pans). The construction work has not started yet because of shortages of construction materials. The third plant is to be set up at Hradec Kralove-Plotiste by rebuilding the local light metal foundry built by the Germans during the occupation.

8. Light Metal Plants

The smelting, spraying, and other operations connected with the production of light metals are being concentrated in the Vítkovice Plant and in the factory Biochma in Medrice near Brno.

10. Skoda Works' Shortage of Labor

The Skoda Works is hiring all applicants for jobs, both skilled and unskilled, including the "reacticharies" dismissed from work following the February 1948 putsch.

Hradec Králové, 50:13 N, 15:50 E
Plotiště nad Labem, 50:14 N, 15:48 E

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